



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Environmental Notification

DEQ to conduct water survey on Alabama Bayou near Krotz Springs

BATON ROUGE - The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality will be installing electronic monitoring equipment used in conjunction with a water sampling survey on Alabama Bayou on Aug. 22. Alabama Bayou is located near Krotz Springs from the headwaters at Hwy 975 to its termination at Hwy 975 in Iberville, Pointe Coupee, and St. Martin Parishes. The survey is being conducted to gather water quality information that will be used to restore and protect the waterbody. The survey runs through Aug. 24.

The equipment will be mounted on white PVC poles or buoys. Citizens are asked not to tamper with the equipment. During the survey, a bright red, non-toxic dye will be injected into the water. Citizens who notice the red coloration of the water should not be alarmed. The waterbody will return to its normal state and color by the end of the day. The dye is used to determine flow and distribution patterns of the bayou. These patterns are used to establish sampling points for the survey and to aid in the development of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).

A TMDL is the maximum amount of a pollutant that can be released into a waterbody without causing it to become impaired and/or violate state water quality standards. TMDLs are used as a basis for establishing wastewater discharge limits. The data gathered from the survey will be used to identify suspected pollutants in the bayou that may cause or contribute to low oxygen levels in the water.

For further information about the TMDL program and the watershed sampling survey, please contact Kirk Manuel with DEQ at (225) 219-3513 or visit www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/130/Default.aspx.